

JAN 3 1 2008

<u>CERTIFIED MAIL</u> <u>RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED</u>

Max W. Baker

Hickory, N.C. 28601

**RE:** MUR 5496

Dear Mr. Baker:

This is in reference to the complaint you filed with the Federal Election Commission ("the Commission") on July 30, 2004, concerning possible violations of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, as amended ("the Act").

The Commission found that there was reason to believe that Lawrence David Huffman knowingly and willfully violated 2 U.S.C. § 441a(f) and 441f and that Huffman for Congress and David Blanton, in his official capacity as treasurer ("Committee"), violated 2 U.S.C. §§ 434(b), 441a(f), 441f and 11 C.F.R. § 104.3(d) by accepting an excessive in-kind contribution in the name of another from Dean Proctor and by misreporting the details of two loans the candidate obtained for use in his campaign. The Commission also found that there was reason to believe that Dean Proctor knowingly and willfully violated 2 U.S.C. §§ 441a and 441f by making an excessive contribution in the name of another. In addition, the Commission found reason to believe that that the Committee and Peoples Bank violated 2 U.S.C. § 441b in connection with a prohibited corporate contribution in the form of a bank loan to the candidate's campaign. Finally, the Commission found there was no reason to believe that Dale Jarrett Ford, Inc. violated the Act.

The Commission conducted an investigation in this matter and determined to take no further action as to Peoples Bank and the Committee as it pertains to the 2 U.S.C. § 441b violation. On July 6, 2007, the Commission accepted a conciliation agreement signed on behalf of Dean Proctor. On August 2, 2007, the Commission accepted a conciliation agreement signed on behalf of Mr. Huffman and the Committee and closed the file in this matter.

Documents related to the case will be placed on the public record within 30 days. See Statement of Policy Regarding Disclosure of Closed Enforcement and Related Files,

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68 Fed. Reg. 70,426 (Dec. 18, 2003). Copies of the conciliation agreements with Mr. Huffman, the Committee, and Mr. Proctor are enclosed for your information, along with copies of the dispositive General Counsel's Reports relating to Peoples Bank and Dale Jarrett Ford, Inc.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (202) 694-1650.

Sincerely,

Ana J. Peña-Wallace

**Attorney** 

Enclosures
Conciliation Agreements
General Counsel's Reports